

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
ABSTRACT

Telangana State Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Diversion of forest land to an extent of **1.0553 ha** in various forest divisions viz. Khanapur, Jannaram and Utnoor-FDPT under Nirmal, Mancherial and Adilabad Districts respectively for laying of Optical Fiber Cable along the road and within the existing Right of Way in favour of M/s. Jio Digital Fibre Private Limited (earlier M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited) – **Final (Stage.II) approval** - Accorded – Orders – Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No. 27

Dated: 22-02-2023

Read the following:-

1. Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, New Delhi, Lr.F.No.5 2/2017/FC, dt.28.03.2019.
2. From the PCCF(HoFF), TS, Hyd., Ref.No.4128/2018/FCA-3, Dated:23.11.2020.
3. G.O.Rt.No.28, EFS&T (For.I) Dept., Dt.02.03.2021.
4. From the PCCF(HoFF), TS, Hyd., Rc.No.PCCF-FC3/FC15/121/2022-FCA Section (4128/2018/FCA-3)(ii), dt.04.01.2023.

ORDER:

In the letter 2nd read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana State, Hyderabad has submitted a proposal under section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of forest land to an extent of **1.0553 ha** in various forest divisions viz. Khanapur, Jannaram and Utnoor-FDPT under Nirmal, Mancherial and Adilabad Districts respectively for laying of Optical Fiber Cable along the road and within the existing Right of Way in favour of M/s. Jio Digital Fibre Private Limited (earlier M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited)

2. In the G.O.3rd read above, Government have accorded approval **in-principle (Stage.I)** for the above project as per the powers delegated to State Government in the guidelines issued by Government of India, in the letter 1st read above, subject to certain conditions as stipulated therein.

3. In the letter 4th read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana State, Hyderabad has furnished the compliance report on the conditions stipulated in Stage-I approval accorded by the State Government for the project and requested to accord final approval for this project as per the guidelines issued by Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi, in the letter 1st read above.

4. Government after careful examination of the proposal of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana State, Hyderabad, hereby accord **final (Stage.II) approval** for diversion of forest land to an extent of **1.0553 ha** in various forest divisions viz. Khanapur, Jannaram and Utnoor-FDPT under Nirmal, Mancherial and Adilabad Districts respectively for laying of Optical Fiber Cable along the road and within the existing Right of Way in favour of M/s. Jio Digital Fibre Private Limited (earlier M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited), subject to the following conditions:-

- i. The legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. **Demarcation of the forest land diverted:** The State Forest Department shall carry out demarcation of the proposed forest area by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly

(PTO)

numbered at an interval of 20 meters at the cost of the User Agency and cost for which shall be deposited by the User Agency with the forest department as assessed by the concerned District Forest Officer/ Forest Divisional Officer;

- iii. **No tree felling and branch cutting shall be carried out by the User agency;**
- iv. The depth of the trench shall not be more than 2 m and width shall not be more than 0.45 m and after laying down of optical fiber cable the ground shall be leveled. The cable line should be laid atleast one meter below the ground;
- v. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal;
- vi. Disturbance should be kept minimum by creating labor camps outside the forest areas and it will be responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the laborers and staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora and fauna. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- vii. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel;
- viii. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
- ix. The muck generated in the earth cutting if any, will be disposed off at the designated sites and in no case the muck/debris will be disposed off in the forest area by the User Agency'
- x. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **1.0553 ha** and the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
- xi. User Agency shall obtain Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable.
- xii. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of competent authority;
- xiii. The User Agency should take permission for carrying out any maintenance;
- xiv. The Annual Compliance Monitoring report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).
- xv. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance of all the Court orders, provisions, rules, regulations and guidelines for the time being in force as applicable to the project;

- xvi. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the MoEF&CC, Guidelines F.No.11-42/2017-FC, Dt.29.01.2018 and as per F.No.5-2/2017, Dt.28.03.2019.
- xvii. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest Conservation, protection and development of Forests & Wildlife.

5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana State, Hyderabad shall take further action, accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)

SANTHI KUMARI,
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT &
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FOREST).

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Telangana State, Hyderabad.

Copy to:

The Director General, Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division),
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jorbagh Road, New Delhi -110 003.

The Regional Officer (Central),
Integrated Regional Office, Hyderabad,
Aranya Bhavan, Opposite Reserve Bank of India,
Saifabad, Hyderabad - 500004 (w.e.)

The M/s. Jio Digital Fiber Private Limited, 204, Lake Shore Towers, Raj
Bhavan Road, Somajiguda, Hyderabad - 500 082

SC.

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER